



Murray

ANNUAL REPORT FOR

1952.



TO

THE PERSHORE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

BY

J.J. MURRAY, M.B., D.P.H.

(District Medical Officer of Health).

AND

J.W. HOLMES, M.S.I.A.,

(Chief Sanitary Inspector).

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PERSHORE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I beg to present my Report on the health of your District for 1952.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Registrar-General's population estimate:- 16,410.

<u>BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	156.	143.	299.
Illegitimate.	9.	3.	12.
	165.	146.	311.
<u>STILL-BIRTHS.</u>			
Legitimate.	4.	6.	10.
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
	4.	6.	10.

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population.	18.9.	17.6
Still-Birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	31.1.	26.9

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
DEATHS.	106.	90.	196.
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population.		11.9.	14.3
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion.		Nil.	2.
Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births.		Nil.	6.7.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year.	6.	3.	9.
Deaths of legitimate infants.	6.	2.	8.
Deaths of illegitimate infants.	-	1.	1.

Death rates of Infants under one year:-		
All infants per 1,000 live births.	29.	34.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	27.	36.
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	83.	-

Deaths from Cancer. (all ages).	31.
Deaths from Measles. (all ages).	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough. (all ages).	-

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age:- .			
	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	2.	2.	4.
Illegitimate.	-	-	-

Comparison with certain figures for the whole country is as follows:-

	<u>England & Wales.</u>	<u>District</u> <u>1952.</u>	<u>District</u> <u>1951.</u>
Birth Rate.	15.3.	18.9.	17.6.
Death Rate.	11.3.	11.9.	14.3.
Infant Mortality Rate.	22.6	29.	34.

CAUSE OF DEATH.

The following table gives the causes of death during 1952.

<u>CAUSE OF DEATH.</u>	<u>MALES.</u>	<u>FEMALES.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	2	3
Tuberculosis, other.	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease.	2	-	2
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Measles.	-	-	-
Other Infective and parasitic diseases.	-	1	1
{ Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	1	2
{ Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	6	-	6
{ Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	8	8
{ Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	-	-
{ Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	10	5	15
{ Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	2	2
{ Inclusive totals.	17	16	33
Diabetes.	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	12	12	24
Coronary disease, angina.	14	6	20
Hypertension with heart disease.	1	1	2
Other heart disease.	26	22	48
Other circulatory disease.	1	1	2
Influenza.	1	1	2
Pneumonia.	4	4	8
Bronchitis.	2	1	3
Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	2	2	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	2	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	12	11	23
Motor vehicle accidents.	3	1	4
All other accidents.	3	3	6
Suicide.	-	2	2
Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-
	106	90	196

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Infectious Disease Hospitals are under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

No difficulty has been found in obtaining admissions, and the transport system is satisfactory.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES.

A total of 2,368 houses with a population of 8,201 is supplied from public mains.

2,212 dwellings with 7,516 persons are dependent on well water supplies. Many of these are unfit for drinking.

Piped water from Cheltenham and Worcester Corporations augment the local main supply.

The River Severn supply for Coventry will, it is hoped, assist in supplying some villages now using well water.

There is no evidence of plumbo-solvency in the district.

Approximately twelve houses are supplied with stand-pipes.

A scheme for a supply of water to the Parishes of - Spetchley, Bredicot, Broughton Hackett, Upton Snodsbury, Grafton Flyford, North Piddle, Dormston, Kington, Flyford Flavel, Naunton Beauchamp, Abberton, Bishampton, Throckmorton, Hill and Moor, Fladbury, Cropthorne and Charlton has begun. It is estimated that upon completion about 3,000 persons will have access to piped water.

ANALYSES.

RAW WATER.

Bacteriological examination	- 54.	Satisfactory	- 51.	} Including independent Parish Spring supplies.
		Unsatisfactory	- 3.	
Chemical examination	- 54.	Satisfactory	- 47.	}
		Unsatisfactory	- 7.	

TREATED WATER.

Satisfactory reports from Cheltenham Corporation.

PARISH AND POPULATION SUPPLIES.

P A R I S H.	FROM PUBLIC MAINS.		FROM WELLS, SPRINGS, ET	
	NUMBER OF HOUSES.	POPULATION.	NUMBER OF HOUSES.	POPULATION.
Bredon.	309.	1,076.	44.	154.
Comberton, Gt.	54.	189.	20.	70.
Comberton, Lt.	46.	161.	31.	108.
Eckington.	180.	620.	36.	126.
Peopleton.	71.	251.	12.	42.
Pinvin.	138.	482.	21.	73.
Wick.	70.	185.	27.	96.
Wyre.	92.	322.	15.	52.
Whittington.	99.	345.	15.	52.
Pershore.	1,095.	3,830.	98.	343.
Birlingham.	21.	74.	81.	284.
Bredon's Norton.	8.	38.	48.	169.
Defford.	108.	378.	42.	144.
Stoulton.	50.	155.	69.	241.
Besford.	16.	56.	25.	87.
Norton.	11.	39.	166.	581.
Other Parishes.	-	-	1,462.	4,894.
	2,368.	8,201.	2,212.	7,516.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Work has begun on the Scheme for Eckington village.

A new scheme for the Town of Pershore is in preparation. This is very necessary.

The Council have made themselves responsible for the sewage disposal of 100 houses owned by the Ministry of Supply.

Two further small works were completed during the year -

(a) at Littleworth, Norton, serving 50 houses, and

(b) at Hawbridge, Stoulton, serving 23 houses,

making a total of 23 such completed since the War.

HOUSING.

During 1952, the Council erected 61 houses, making a total of 341 constructed since the War. 24 were built privately.

The nissen huts occupied by thirteen families are gradually being demolished as houses are found.

The five occupied nissen huts which formed part of the accommodation on the Pershore Racecourse have now been demolished and their occupants re-housed.

It is to be noted that about 300 dwellings in the district are in a bad state of repair, forming part of a national problem, the solution of which is at present very difficult.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

In addition to the Inspector of Weights and Measures, samples are taken by the Sanitary Inspector's Staff under the Food and Drugs Acts, 1928 - 38. There are 24 registered premises for the sale of ice-cream which are regularly supervised.

There are no slaughter houses in this area.

No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

(1) Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.)

PREMISES.	NUMBER ON REGISTER.	NUMBER OF -		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Owners Prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3 & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authority.	5.	4.	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	50.	32.	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	55.	36.	-	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found:-

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				No. of cases in which prosecution were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	REFERRED		
			To H.M. Inspr.	By H.M. Inspr.	
Want of Cleanliness.	2.	1.	—	—	—
Overcrowding.	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature.	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors.	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences. (a) insufficient.	2.	1.	—	2.	—
(b) unsuitable or defective.	1.	—	—	1.	—
(c) not separate for sexes.	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers).	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.	5.	2.	—	3.	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES - SECTIONS 110 and 111.

There were no instances of this during the year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notified diseases (other than tuberculosis) during 1952.

<u>DISEASE.</u>	<u>TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.</u>	<u>ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.</u>	<u>TOTAL DEATHS.</u>
Puerperal Erexia.	1.	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	4.	-	-
Measles.	114.	-	-
Whooping Cough.	27.	-	-

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASE CASES
(OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1952.

AGE GROUPS.	SCARLET FEVER.	MEASLES.	WHOOPING COUGH.	PUERPERAL PYREXIA.
YEARS.				
0 -	-	1	-	-
1 -	1	20	4	-
3 -	1	29	10	-
5 -	2	52	12	-
10 -	-	7	-	-
15 -	-	2	-	-
25 -	-	3	-	1
25 and over.	-	-	1	-
TOTALS.	4.	114.	27.	1.

Acute Polio-myelitis.

No cases were notified.

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified.

Scarlet Fever.

Four cases of a mild type were notified. No deaths.

Measles.

114 cases, as against 152 last year, mostly affecting children of school age. No deaths.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The table below gives the numbers immunised during the year.

<u>Numbers immunised.</u> <u>0 - 4 inclusive.</u>	<u>Numbers immunised.</u> <u>5 - 14 inclusive.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
158.	27.	185.

(Above figures include cases immunised by Private Practitioners).

School reinforcing doses:- 296.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table includes notifications and deaths arising from this disease during 1952.

AGE GROUPS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
YEARS.								
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 -	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	5	9	-	-	1	2	-	-
		14	-	-		3	-	-

Number of Deaths from Tuberculosis. 3.

Number notified by Death. -

	1951.	1952.
Total number of Tuberculosis notifications.	22.	14.
Total number of deaths.	1.	3.

Based on the current statistics it can be stated that the health of the area is satisfactory.

Over the years 1943 to 1952, inclusive, the rates for deaths and births have altered very slightly, the lowest death rate recorded being 10.3. in 1947, and the highest rate 14.8 in 1951. 66% of the deaths, averaged were of persons 65 years and over.

The lowest birth rate was in 1943 - 16.3, and the highest 22.1 in 1947.

The death rate of infants under one year was 53. per 1,000 births in 1939. This year it was 29. The highest figure in the 1943 - 1952 interregnum being 43.

The last Diphtheria case to date was notified in 1949, being the only one for that year. In 1943, there were 14 cases and in 1944 - 18. Immunisation of the great majority of children over six months is now done each year.

There have been no cases of Infantile Paralysis since 1950 when 4 were notified.

In 1945 Measles notifications were at a peak figure of 576 and the high number of 360 was reached in 1950. No deaths have been recorded.

Tuberculosis notifications have averaged 18 per year with little variation, the highest number being 22 in 1951 and the lowest 16 in 1945. The highest number of deaths - 14 - occurred in 1947. Since then they have been in single figures with one death in 1951 and three this year.

The extensive housing programme undertaken since the War is the best contribution that the Council can make to the furtherance of health and welfare.

I am indebted to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his Staff for their kind assistance during the year.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

J.J. MURRAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE PERSHORE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Sanitary work undertaken by Officers of my Department during the year ended December, 1952.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The following schemes have been constructed during the year:-
Stoulton (Hawbridge).

A pumping scheme to settlement tanks and rotary distribution.
Hamlet of Littleworth.

A pumping scheme to settlement tanks and rotary distribution for the village of Littleworth.

Pershore.

The Council adopted the sewers and undertook the maintenance of the sewage disposal works serving the T.R.E. Housing Estate during the year.

A comprehensive scheme for the Town of Pershore is under preparation.

Eckington.

A starting date has been given for December, 1952. The Scheme is partially separate, involving pumping, settlement and rotary distribution.

It is anticipated that the following works will be required to be increased in size in the near future to deal with new housing Development.

Pershore.

Abbey Grounds Estate.

Defford.

Council House site extensions.

Bredon.

A complete new disposal works is recommended to deal with foul and surface water drainage.

DRAINAGE.

Birlingham.

Approximately 50 yards of 6" sewer were laid jointly by the Council and the Worcestershire County Council in the parish to overcome a public nuisance near the highway.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The work of cleansing septic tanks and small sewage disposal works was carried out under Contract at quarterly intervals by a private contractor - Messrs. C.W. Harrison (Contractors) Ltd., of Headington, Oxford.

The County Council undertake the cleansing of street gullies in the Town of Pershore at the moment.

REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

The refuse tip at Pershore was closed during the year and tipping commenced on a new site at Drakes Broughton.

Delivery of a new 12 cubic yard low loader refuse vehicle has been taken during the year.

A Contract has been undertaken with the Royal Engineers for the removal of refuse twice-weekly from their Camp at Norton Barracks.

A tender has been submitted for the thrice-weekly removal of refuse from the Royal Air Force Station at Pershore.

Salvage.

During the year there was a decline in the market price of paper salvage, the revenue from which was £581, compared with £1,413 during 1951.

Scrap metal and other materials continue to be collected.

WATER SUPPLY.

Main Supplies.

The quality of the water from the Overbury Springs remains very good. The supply is untreated. Similarly the supply obtained from neighbouring Corporations is of good quality.

79 new consumers were connected to the mains during the year.

Difficulty was experienced during the summer months maintaining the supply in the Pershore Area due to the insufficient storage capacity of the service reservoir.

The Regional Water Supply Scheme has commenced in the northern part of the District.

Analyses.

(a) Raw Water.

Bacteriological examinations	- 54.	Satisfactory	- 51.
		Unsatisfactory	- 3.
Chemical examinations	- 54.	Satisfactory	- 47.
		Unsatisfactory	- 7.

(b) Well Water.

Number of samples submitted for analysis - 25.

	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Chemical.	6.	19.
Bacteriological.	4.	19.

DISINFECTION.

Approximately ten disinfections were carried out using formaldehyde gas and formalin spray, primarily as a result of Scarlet Fever and Tuberculosis.

Arrangements for steam disinfection of bedding and clothing were made in several instances.

RODENT CONTROL.

The service has continued to operate smoothly, the Operative using A.N.T.U., Red Squill and Zinc Phosphide poisons.

Number of infestations dealt with at private premises.	-	530.
Number of infestations dealt with on business premises.	-	41.
Number of other infestations dealt with.	-	9.
Number of complaints received.	-	135.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food premises have been inspected periodically and improvements with regard to sanitary arrangements have been effected by informal action.

Milk Supply.

Six dairymen (other than cowkeepers) are registered. No adulteration cases have been detected.

The following foods have been voluntarily surrendered, inspected and condemned.

Sugar.	163 lbs.
Pineapples.	42 lbs.
Strawberries.	1 lb.
Cherries.	179 lbs.
Tomatoes.	3 lbs.
Lemon Cheese.	69 lbs.
Plums.	54 lbs. 9 ozs.
Pears.	51 lbs. 4 ozs.
Peas.	1 lb. 12½ ozs.
Carrots.	2 lbs. 5 ozs.
Macedonines.	1 lb. 3 ozs.
Mutton.	53 lbs.
Chicken.	3 lbs. 13 ozs.
Ham.	76 lbs. 4 ozs.
Luncheon Meat.	36 lbs.
Brawn.	12 ozs.
Herrings.	14 ozs.
Eggs.	120.

Public Abattoir.

The existing arrangements for slaughtering at the Evesham Abattoir were unsatisfactory and during the year slaughtering and allocation has been transferred to Stratford-on-Avon. It is thought the quality of the supply of meat will be detrimentally affected by the extended area of distribution and four local authorities (including Pershore Rural District Council) advocate the building of a new slaughterhouse in the Evesham Area.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR (OTHER THAN HOUSING).

Number of premises visited.	650. (approx.)
Defects or nuisances found.	33.
Defects or nuisances abated.	33.
Number of Informal Notices served.	15.
Number of Statutory Notices served.	2.
New drainage to sewers.	6.
New drainage to septic tanks.	24.
Drains repaired.	-
Obstructed drains cleared.	30.
Drains tested.	28.
Number of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals dealt with.	-

Number of Shops visited.	23.
Cases under the Shops Act, 1934. (informal).	-
Number of Factories inspected.	36

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year -

(a) by the local authority.	61.
(b) by other local authorities.	-
(c) by other bodies or persons.	24.

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year -

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	60.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation.	24.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	36.

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices -

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their Officers.	25.
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year -

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	4.
	(2 subsequently the subject of Demolition Order)

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	18.
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	3.

Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding -

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	47.
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NEW HOUSING.

The Council have built 61 new houses and 24 have been built privately.

Total post-war development:-

Local Authority Development.	341.
Private Development.	101.
Total houses owned by the local authority.	725.

Applicants re-housed in permanent houses -

Wadborough.	6.
Pershore.	42.
Whittington.	1.
Stoulton.	8.
Bredon.	6.
Norton.	1.
Broughton Hackett.	1.
Throckmorton.	1.
Defford.	1.
Wick.	4.

Applicants re-housed in temporary accommodation -

Racecourse, Pershore.	6.
Stoulton Hostel.	2.

Number of applicants for housing accommodation at 31. 12. 52. -

With separate accommodation.	294.
Sharing accommodation.	303.

597.

(Note - this total includes applicants who have applied for more than one Parish and the total applicants may therefore be regarded as - 471).

HOUSING RURAL SURVEY.

Little progress has been made towards completing this Survey and approximately 200 houses remain to be inspected.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE.

Number of repair licences issued - 56.

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Three applications for Improvement Grants were approved during the year.

Although there has been an increase in the number of new houses built during the year, there are still over 400 applicants on the List.

The need for a proper sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the Town of Pershore is very acute.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

J.W. HOLMES,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

